

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claimed invention relates to an organic electroluminescent element where an anode and a cathode which are opposite to each other, and where a hole injection layer and a luminous layer are interposed between the anode and cathode. The injection layer comprises an oligomer having a phenylenediamine structure and has a glass transition temperature of 110°C or more where an intermediate layer for inhibiting a reaction in an interface between the hole injection layer and the anode is formed of a phthalocyanine-based compound between the hole injection layer and the anode.

The rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination of Hosokawa (U.S. 5,364,654) and Imai (U.S. 5,374,489) is respectfully traversed.

Hosokawa describes a process for production of a thin film electrode and an electroluminescence device. Imai describes an organic electroluminescent device having an organic emitting layer and a hole transport layer laminated with each other and arranged between a cathode and anode. Applicants believe that the claimed organic electroluminescence element has superior properties over the devices described in Hosokawa and Imai, and based on these superior properties, the claimed device is not obvious over the cited references.

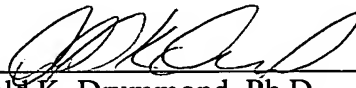
Applicants direct the Examiner to the attached Kawamura Declaration which presents experimental data that compare the performance of the claimed element to devices similar to those described in the cited references. As stated in the Declaration, the results of the experiments show that the EL devices of the present invention are superior in lifetime and heat resistance compared to the cited references. The device described in Hosokawa (Comparative Example 6) and the device described in Imai (Comparative Example 5) both show inferior properties compared to the claimed element. Accordingly, the claimed element

would not have been obvious over the cited references, and therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

In light of the above remarks contained herein, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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